RECEIVED
FEB 07 2011

February 2, 2011

Provost Gloria Gibson
Provost & Vice-President for Academic Affairs
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0707

Dear Provost Gibson,

As an M.A. graduate of the University of Northern Iowa's History Department Public History program, I am well acquainted with the value of the UNI Museums to students. The UNI Museums provide the only practical, hands-on experience available on campus to students wishing to pursue an interest in general museum studies, collections management, conservation and preservation of collections, and/or exhibit design and installation. In addition, the UNI Museums offer experience for students interested in careers in other fields such as website design, marketing, outreach activities, and educational programs for all ages. Dr. Grosboll's "Introduction to Museum Studies" class provided the first analytical discussion of museum issues, the first exposure to collections management, and my first experience with docent training and outreach at the Marshall Center School. These experiences are invaluable additions to the Public History curriculum.

After graduation, I was employed by the Cedar Falls Historical Society as Collections and Exhibits Manager. The opportunities provided by the UNI Museums formed the basis of my success in that position. The UNI Public History program requires its students to complete two 120-hour internships, the first of which I completed at the UNI Museums. During my internship I learned to use the collection database (a pre-requisite for the majority of collections positions) and create an exhibit. I worked with the exhibit preparator and gained a general understanding of the construction and finish required for exhibit cases. Graduates without practical experience in their chosen profession are at a disadvantage in this competitive job market.

The Cedar Falls Historical Society and UNI Museums are the closest museums in proximity to the UNI campus and as such are ideal for student internships. As Collections Manager at CFHS I worked with up to three interns and over a dozen "Introduction to History" students each year - contacts that were mutually beneficial, valuable, and rewarding. UNI Museums, because of their larger staff, are able to provide mentoring experiences for many more students than CFHS can currently accommodate and the loss of that practical experience on campus would be detrimental to students.

Following my graduation from UNI, I also accepted the position of Executive Director of the Iowa Museum Association. In this position I am in contact with hundreds of dedicated museum staff and volunteers across the nation who have accepted the responsibility for a collection held in the public trust. The UNI Museums have built their collection steadily and carefully for over one hundred years, thoughtfully determining what artifacts would best serve the University's mission and how best to care for each artifact. Time, money, and energy has been expended by many students, staff, and volunteers devoted to preserving this collection in the public trust. To dismantle the collection and

remove it to another community would be to destroy everything that has been done to date on behalf of the UNI Museums and the University.

Finally, as a parent and a member of the Cedar Falls community for over fifty years, I want to share how important the UNI Museums were to me as a mother with three active children. The UNI Museums were at the top of our list of places to go. With their natural history exhibits, everything behind glass or out of reach, children's activities, drawers the children could open and peer into - a visit to the UNI Museums was a treat that my children looked forward to enthusiastically.

I recognize that belt-tightening is the order of the day in businesses, non-profits, and educational institutions across the nation. However cutting the UNI Museums from campus will significantly impact the practical efficacy of the History and Public History programs and the ultimate success of those students in their job search; will scatter a collection built over many decades thus destroying both the integrity of the collection and the tracking database; will impair the Museums' ability to build a large donor base in the future; and will remove a beloved destination from the community. I urge you to consider all other options before taking the serious step of closing the UNI Museums and removing its collection to another community, out of reach of the students and community for whom it was carefully created and preserved.

Sincerely,

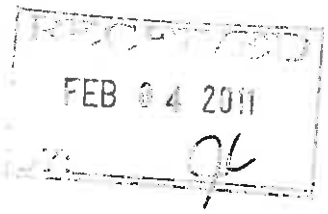
Cynthia Sweet (B.A., M.A. University of Northern Iowa)
1116 Washington Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
crsweet@cfu.net
319-277-3584

cc: President Benjamin Allen
Interim Dean Kent Johnson
Dr. Robert Martin
Dr. Sue Grosboll

Department of Art

University of Northern Iowa

February 2, 2011



Dr. Gloria Gibson, Executive Vice President & Provost
University of Northern Iowa
Mail Code 0707

Dear Provost Gloria Gibson:

Following your meeting with us on 1/10/11, the UNI Museums Faculty Advisory Committee (MFAC) now better understands the actions the UNI administration chooses to take in light of recent and anticipated economic woes at this institution. We refer to the regrettable potential closure of the ailing Museum building, currently housing a substantial collection of artifacts, and the dissolution of the Museum directorship. With this in mind the MFAC, which represents the most knowledgeable body on campus about the UNI Museums and its programs, offers a creative, albeit alternate, proposal for the Museums' future.

After intensive meetings on 1/24/11 and 1/31/11, the MFAC feels strongly that the interests and needs of faculty, students, and academic programs are best met at this time by:

- Retaining the bulk of the Museums collection on campus.
- As no single space is available on campus to accommodate the entire collection, Museum subcollections should be relocated to several storage and study locations across campus, thereby providing access by their relevant academic programs.
- Retaining an American Association of Museums consultant to make recommendations for an ethical and efficient restructuring.
- Strengthening these subcollections by identifying objects of excellence in the collection in support of academic programs and by prudent deaccessioning of no longer relevant or deteriorating objects prior to their dispersal to these new locations, thus reducing the space needed for storage.
- Identifying and staffing a conveniently located and accessible exhibition space on campus where temporary exhibitions created by students and faculty may be presented.
- Identifying and maintaining important Museum staff members to care for the subcollections, oversee use of the subcollections by the campus, and supervise the creation and presentation of exhibitions.
- Continuing the Museums' tours, lectures, class projects, guided collection research, and educational resources, such as the traveling trunks, which were created in direct support of various academic programs.
- Establishing partnerships with various community institutions to house subcollections not accommodated on campus but which should remain very close to UNI.
- Creatively redefining the mission of the Museums in order to continue supporting the university's academic programs.
- Honoring the wishes of financial donors by using the Museum endowments exclusively for the collections and the use of the collections by the relevant academic programs.

104 Kamerick Art Building • Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0362 • Phone: 319-273-2077 • Fax: 319-273-7333 • www.uni.edu/artdept

We wish to retain Museum staff who have critical expertise guiding an average of 25 student internships each year in direct support of their degree programs. Because the director serves as a faculty member teaching a museum studies course, providing lectures to numerous UNI classes each year, and conducting research pertinent to a vibrant on-campus museum culture, we hope that the directorship can be reconfigured to maintain these valuable services to various academic programs across campus.

We believe that the arrangement outlined above will best serve the university, the intention of the collection; and the Museums' financial donors. It will safeguard the collection, retain the current strengths of Museum programming, and avoid stranding academic programs that rely on the resources of the Museums.

We respectfully request your implementation of these recommendations in order to move forward with the restructuring process. We further request continued dialogue with you throughout the decisionmaking process, serving as consultants to the newly appointed Transition Committee.

Sincerely,

The members of the UNI Museums Faculty Advisory Committee

Darrell Taylor, Gallery of Art

Carol Colburn, Theatre

Annette Lynch, School of Applied Human Sciences

David Christensen, Curriculum & Instruction

Daryl Smith, Biology

Jim Walters, Earth Science

Barbara Weeg, Library

Deborah Tidwell, Curriculum & Instruction

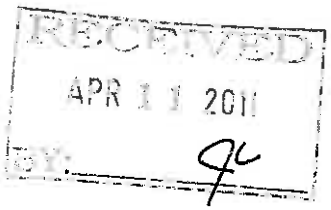
Tony McAdams, Management

Wally Hettle, History

Tyler O'Brien, Sociology, Anthropology, & Criminology

CC: Dr. Benjamin J. Allen, President, University of Northern Iowa

April 7, 2011



Dr. Gloria Gibson, Executive Vice President and Provost

University of Northern Iowa

Mail Code 0707

Dear Provost Gloria Gibson:

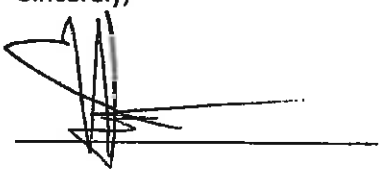
As faculty members in the Anthropology Program at UNI, we would like to express our deep concern for the potential loss of a viable museum at UNI. As I am sure you know, ours is one of the many academic disciplines at UNI that utilizes the collections, facilities, and professional services of the UNI Museums to enhance the education of our students. Practically every semester, Anthropology students and faculty are involved in individual student research projects, internships, and special displays that involve the Museum. In addition, many of our students pursue a career interest in museum work. Beyond its value to students, the UNI Museums provide wonderful programs for the greater University and Cedar Valley communities. In our view, its loss would be damaging to UNI from multiple perspectives.

We understand that budget issues are behind the plan to close of the current museum building and move the collections elsewhere. We also understand that the UNI collections are currently housed in a situation that is not sustainable in the long term. However, this building has been inadequate for at least a decade, and despite the efforts on the part of the Director, Dr. Sue Grosboll, and other supporters of the Museum to have a new facility built, nothing was done. We respectfully suggest that the current museum building be kept open for use by our students and the public until a better facility can be provided. We further urge that plans for a new museum building be placed among the highest construction priorities for UNI. Other renovation and construction plans are far more appropriate for the back-burner than the Museum.

In sum, we are not convinced that the current UNI Museum building must be closed now. However, if it is closed, we support the thoughtful suggestions offered to you by the UNI Museums Faculty Advisory Committee in their letter of February 2, 2011. Two of them are especially crucial. One is that, if the collections must be removed from the current building, they should remain on campus. The other is that a professional Museum director and staff should be maintained. Beyond these suggestions, however, we wish to emphasize that any relocation of the collections should be temporary with specific

conditions stating how they will be returned to a new building. This new museum will reflect UNI's commitment to high quality education and outreach to the public.

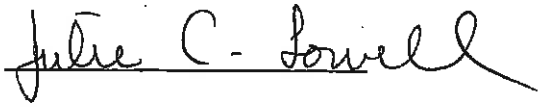
Sincerely,



Mark Grey, Professor



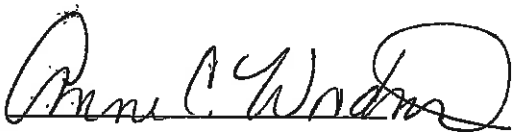
Li Jian, Associate Professor



Julie C. Lowell, Associate Professor



Tyler G. O'Brien, Associate Professor



Anne C. Woodrick, Professor

CC: Dr. Benjamin J Allen, President, University of Northern Iowa

UNI MUSEUMS
University of Northern Iowa
3219 Hudson Road
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0199
www.uni.edu/museum

Discover. Learn. Be inspired.

RECEIVED
APR 29 2011
BY:

April 28, 2011

VIA E-MAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

President Benjamin Allen
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614

Provost Gloria Gibson
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614

Dear President Allen and Provost Gibson:

As the current President of the Board of Directors for the Friends of the University of Northern Iowa Museums ("the Friends"), I wrote to you on February 1st to discuss the issues surrounding the future of the Museum and the museum's collection. I want to take this opportunity to follow up on that letter with an invitation to you both.

As stakeholders in the museum, the Friends group naturally wants to provide its input in any decision-making process that involves the museum's future. The Friends also seek clarity and guidance from the University as to its vision for the museum and the collection. As a result, many questions have been raised by the Board and the Friends that are best directed to you.

On behalf of the Friends and its Board, I want to extend an invitation to attend our next Board meeting. We are scheduled to meet on Tuesday, May 24th, between 5:15 and 6:30 p.m. If you would be so kind as to let me know your willingness and availability to attend this meeting, we would clear our meeting agenda and find a suitable location on campus that would best accommodate the expected attendees (Board members and other interested Friends, university, and community members). If there happens to be a scheduling conflict, I am certain we can work to find a mutually acceptable date and time to meet.

I do look forward to your prompt reply to this invitation.

Very truly yours,

Chad A. Swanson
President, Friends of the University of Northern Iowa Museums

cc:

Sue Grosboll (sue.grosboll@uni.edu)
Jennifer Yarrow (jennifer.yarrow@uni.edu)
Patricia Woelber (pat.woelber@uni.edu)

RECEIVED
SEP 02 2011

Cedar Falls
Tourism and Visitors Bureau

6510 Hudson Road
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
319-268-4266
800-845-1955
www.cedarfallstourism.org

August 31, 2011

President Benjamin Allen
University of Northern Iowa
20 Seerley Hall
Cedar Falls, IA 50614

Dear President Allen,

I am writing on behalf of the Cedar Falls Tourism and Visitors Bureau Board to express our delight in hearing that the UNI Museums will not be closing. The Museums are an important asset to the community offering quality educational exhibits, valuable life-long learning opportunities, and engaging community outreach.

We understand that the university's budget crisis has placed you in a difficult position and that painful decisions will be made, but we also feel compelled to communicate our support for this valued attraction and to remind you that projects like the *T. rex* Named SUE exhibit have brought state-wide notoriety to the university and Cedar Valley community.

We'd like to offer assistance to help communicate your ultimate plan for the UNI Museums to the public and to help find ways to continue the outstanding programming the museums have offered or to find quality exhibit space in close proximity to the university campus.

Sincerely,

Kim Burger

Kim Burger, Manager

cc: Provost Gloria Gibson, Dr. Sue Grosboll

RECEIVED
NOV 17 2011

Association of Midwest Museums

P.O. Box 11940
St. Louis, MO
63112-0040
Phone: 314.746.4557
Fax: 314.746.4569
E-Mail: midwestmuseums@aol.com
www.midwestmuseums.org

November 7, 2011

President Benjamin Allen
President's Office
Seerley 20
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0705

Dear President Allen:

I am writing on behalf of the Association of Midwest Museums (AMM) to express our concern over the proposed closure of the University of Northern Iowa Museums on your campus. Closure of the museum building and dispersing the collection to other locations on campus threatens the reputation of excellence that the UNI Museums has demonstrated over its long history. I urge you to reconsider this and ensure the UNI Museums continue their many contributions to the education, research, and public service missions of the University.

AMM is an association of museums and museum professionals throughout the 8 state Midwestern region that fosters professional development and best practices in the museum community. The UNI Museums have a long history of serving students, the community, and the state of Iowa and have been a leader in its commitment to the highest professional standards and best practices. It has been accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1975, making it among the earliest museums in the country to receive this distinction. Only a small percentage of museums nationwide are accredited by the American Association of Museums, and the University should be proud of this achievement. The UNI Museums are also a member of the Association of Midwest Museums and Iowa Museums Association, demonstrating its commitment to excellence in the museum field.

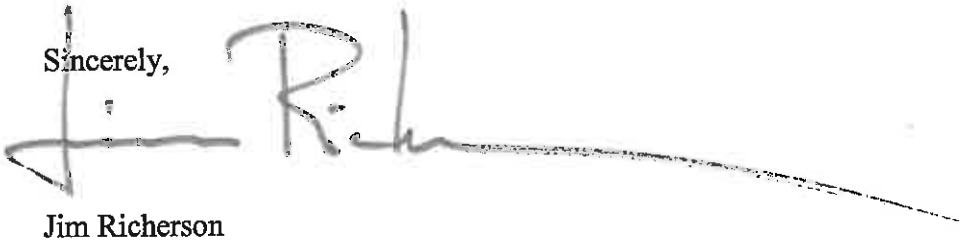
Museums are dedicated to holding collections in the public trust and using collections and exhibitions to engage the public in lifelong learning. University museums on college campuses have a unique opportunity in educating students and our future leaders. The UNI Museums have made valuable contributions to the University over many decades through educational programming, exhibitions, collections, and preservation. The Museums' mission is to foster lifelong learning and the exchange of ideas, as well as a respect for our natural resources and the human heritage of world. Many generations of students across diverse University departments have been beneficiaries of the UNI Museums educational programs. I hope you will ensure that this opportunity continues for current students and many generations to come.

Closing the museum and dispersing the collections not only diminishes educational opportunities but threatens the University's fiduciary responsibilities to hold these collections in the public trust. As is the case with most museums, collections are the result of the generosity of donors over many generations, and museums are legally and ethically responsible for the appropriate care and long-term protection of these collections.

We are proud of the role that the University of Northern Iowa Museums have played over many years. I hope the University will also recognize the important role of the UNI Museums on your campus.

.

Sincerely,



Jim Richerson
AMM President

cc: Provost Gloria Gibson
Interim Dean Kent Johnson
UNI Museums Director Sue Grosboll

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

JAN 2 0 2012

January 6, 2012

AAM Accreditation Commission

Chair
Bonnie Styles
Director, Illinois State Museum, Springfield, Illinois

William Eiland,
Director, Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, Georgia

Andrew Masich
President and CEO, Senator John Heinz History Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Patricia Murphy
Executive Director, Oberlin Heritage Center, Oberlin, Ohio

Terrie Rouse
Founding and Former CEO for Visitor Services, United States Capitol Visitors Center, Washington, DC

Mary Sue Sweeney Price
Director, The Newark Museum, New Jersey

James Welu
Director, Worcester Museum of Art, Worcester, Massachusetts

Benjamin J Allen
President and Professor
President's Office
University of Northern Iowa
Seerley Hall 20
Cedar Falls, IA 50614

Dr. Gloria Gibson
Executive Vice President and Provost
University of Northern Iowa
Seerley Hall 1
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614

Dear President Allen and Provost Gibson:

I am writing as the Chair of the Accreditation Commission of the American Association of Museums to express concern about the potential closure of the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) Museums in Cedar Falls. As I'm certain you know, the UNI University Museums and Collections are accredited by the American Association of Museums and have held this prestigious status since 1976. At the current time, there are only 18 accredited museums in Iowa, and only 779 accredited museums across the entire country—only about 5% of all of the museums in the United States. The UNI Museums have distinguished themselves by achieving accreditation three times, assembling significant history anthropology, biology, and geology collections, and offering unique educational opportunities for university students, school groups, and the public.

We fully understand the economic challenges that universities are facing, but want to be certain that you are aware that actions under consideration could result in the loss of accreditation, public and donor trust, and reputation for what has been a nationally significant museum program on your campus.

To remain accredited, the Museum's collections must continue to be accessible for research and educational programs. The Museum must continue to care for the collections following national standards and best practices and use and interpret them for the public presentation of regularly scheduled programs, primarily at a physical facility or site. The Museum must be open to the public at least 1,000 hours per year. The Museum must have a full-time director to whom authority is delegated for day-to-day operation, must have at least one paid professional staff member, and must have the financial resources to operate effectively. The Museum is scheduled for its next accreditation review in 2016. However, failure to meet these eligibility criteria will result in the withdrawal of accredited status as soon as the conditions occur.

The Museum's collections are held in the public trust. Although deaccessioning of collections that are peripheral to the Museum's mission is a legitimate activity, AAM's Code of Ethics for Museums and generally accepted accounting principles require any proceeds from such deaccessioning be used for new collections acquisitions.

continued

1575 EYE STREET NW, SUITE 400, WASHINGTON DC 20005
PHONE: 202.289.1818 FAX: 202.289.6578 WWW.AAM-US.ORG

Deacessioning of collections must be done judiciously with full understanding that it can erode donor trust in the Museum and the University. The University's long term financial sustainability is based on its relationship with its donors and this is being put at risk. Not only does the University administration have a legal obligation to honor donor wishes, short-sighted actions that violate them in spirit can also cause current and future donors to stop their gifts to the campus. Future funding of all public campuses in this country will be largely dependent on private funding.

Although the collections are obviously a significant resource to the Museum and the University, a viable museum is more than its collections. The UNI Museums have an integrated and nationally accredited program of research, collections, exhibitions, and education. If collections are dispersed to entities across the campus, then they must continue to be properly curated, documented, secured, and made accessible for research and education. Individuals who donated collections to the Museum will expect them to be accessible for research and education.

If you have any questions about the impacts of your decisions on the accredited status of the UNI Museums and Collections, feel free to call me. I hope that you will be able to find a way to retain this nationally accredited Museum, which has been an important educational resource for the University and the community since 1892.

Sincerely,

Bonnie W. Styles

Bonnie W. Styles, Ph.D.
Chair, American Association of Museums Accreditation Commission
Director, Illinois State Museum

Cc: Robert Donley
Executive Director, Board of Regents, State of Iowa
11260 Aurora Avenue
Urbandale, Iowa 50322-7905

Sue Grosboll, Dr. Sue Grosboll
Director
University of Northern Iowa Museums & Collections
3219 Hudson Road
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0199

AAMG

Association of Academic Museums & Galleries

RECEIVED
JAN 18 2012

January 10, 2012

President Benjamin Allen
President's Office
Seerley Hall 20
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0705

Dear President Allen:

I am writing to you in my capacity as president of the Association of Academic Museums and Galleries (http://www.aamg-us.org/), as the director of a state university museum similar to those on your campus, and as an academic museum professional of twenty-five years. The AAMG is the principal organization of university and college museums of art, cultural heritage, natural history, anthropology, history and science in the United States. It represents the nation's 1,275 academic museums, hosts annual professional conferences, maintains a listserv of over 3,000 members, and, in partnership with the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern, offers business training to the nation's academic museum leaders.

Including our peer work with the American Association of Museums accreditation and museum assessment programs, we have assisted our sister academic museums and their parent universities in a variety of capacities. These have ranged from providing professional consultancies through our membership in the national Task Force on College and University Museums (this important work is funded by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation and at no cost to the consulted institution) to offering flood relief (in recent years to Tulane and the University of Iowa).

Naturally, our membership is deeply concerned about the ongoing discussion to close the University of the Northern Iowa Museums and store their important collections. Yours is a highly regarded museum program with broad public educational outreach and institutional ties. As a state museum, its multifaceted roles on and off campus are exemplary as reflected in the museums' accreditation by the AAM, a distinction shared by only 5% of the nation's museums. Our understanding is that this move is under consideration for a variety of reasons: the inadequacies of the museums' facilities; state funding cuts to the university as a whole; and even the pending retirement of the museum director.

Phone: 612-486-AAMG (612-486-2264)
Email: mail@aamg-us.org
www.aamg-us.org

Those of us with long careers in the museum field fully appreciate financial constraints, the unique challenges of climate control and security required to collect and exhibit objects, and the critical role of leadership to the success of our many museums. As your decisions will not only affect UNI, but also have national ramifications for other campus museums, we would respectfully like the opportunity to discuss any such moves with you. Our purpose would be to share our collective experiences in addressing such challenges by developing museum-specific long-range and business plans.

Museums like yours are uniquely positioned to enhance the education of students, both academically and as productive citizens of the world, to advance the research and discovery of faculty, and to provide lifelong learning opportunities to diverse local and regional communities.

I hope that you will allow us to assist as appropriate in these discussions. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jill Hartz
President, AAMG
Executive Director, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art
1223 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1223
Tel. 541-346-0972 Email: Hartz@uoregon.edu

cc: Dr. Gloria Gibson, Provost
Dr. Kent Johnson, Interim Dean
Dr. Sue Grosboll, Director, UNI Museums
Robert Donley, Executive Director, Board of Regents

404 Sandy Cove
Tinton Falls, NJ 07753
February 4, 2012

FEB 13 2012

Sue Grosboli
Director
University of Northern Iowa Museum
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, Iowa

Dear Ms. Grosboli:

I have received a copy of Chad A Swanson's letter to the Director of the University's Board of Regents. I agree with Mr. Swanson's position that the closing of the museum would be a tragedy.

I further want to state that if the Museum of the University of Northern Iowa ceases to exist, I want all of my donations of my Mother's , Aletha G. Jacobs Hutchison, records and artifacts of her teaching career in Iowa to be returned to me. I donated them to the museum—if the museum ceases to be, they are my property to distribute to her grandchildren. I should think many other donors would require this service also.

Please file this notification, and keep me appraised of the museum's future.

If there is a way I can help (short of funding the budget!) please let me know.

Sincerely,

Roberta Hutchison Ostar

cc: Dr. Benjamin Allen
Robert Donley
Chad A. Swanson

#165(12) Presidents, Friends of the UNI Museum Advisory Council

February 3, 2012

Dear Chad, Susan Scott

In the 90's my parents Donald H. and Constance R. Hitzhusen made a significant donation to the University Museum at the University Of North Iowa (FUNIM). If memory serves me it was valued at approximately $750-$850K and consisted of animal mounts from Africa and N America. The donation was made after a couple of years of our investigation into the long history and stability of the museum. The collection was transferred to the museum approximately between 1995 and 1999 in a series of installments.

Due to the recent economic events in the USA it appears that UNI is suffering economically as many are. If the University chooses to close the museum or seemingly stop funding it and supporting it, then I think UNI has an obligation to find other acceptable alternatives. Our family sees several potential options, potential solutions or ideas that may not have been considered:

1. With the oversight from FUNIM, UNI should find another museum that has the will and the means to absorb the collections and to ensure that it is well taken care of and utilized properly.
2. With oversight from FUNIM the collection should be stored and cared for properly at UNI's expense until another museum or sustainable option is derived. This plan may require fund raising, community support, and community business participation that have interest in the economic, cultural and educational development of North Iowa.
3. UNI should pledge ongoing financial support for the new museum or through donation of land or resources to ensure the success of the new museum venture.
4. In Dubuque, IA recently we noticed that a national museum (Smithsonian?) had partnered with the city of Dubuque to develop a Mississippi River ecosystem museum experience that was very popular. I am sure the casino there was somehow economically involved. Is there a "Cedar River Experience" or "Pioneer Experience" that would attract a viable partner in Cedar Falls leveraging the assets from the UNI Museum, etc?
5. The University of Iowa, Iowa State University, and University of Indiana benefited from seven figure donations from affluent individuals and business men from Iowa or from originally from Iowa (John Pappajohn-investor, Robert James Waller-author) that may be willing to help support such a venture.
6. The State of Iowa may be another source of support if enough people solicited support for the museum or "new model".

In summary, times are hard, things are changing and we understand this. However, UNI has an obligation to its donors, supporters, community and state to stay in this until an alternative and sustainable solution is found, no matter how long it takes. It also has an obligation to support this new venture in a way that will enable it to succeed given its sudden change in course after its establishment in 1892.

Respectfully,

Mark Alcorn
721 Villawood Lane
Coppell, TX 75019
972 342 1062
markjalcorn@gmail.com

CC:
Robert Donley
Executive Director
Board of Regents
State of Iowa
11260 Aurora Ave
Urbandale, IA 50322

RECEIVED
FEB 06 2012
BOARD OF REGENTS
STATE OF IOWA

Subject: A sincere thank you
From: Spencer Walrath <spencer.walrath@gmail.com>
Date: 2/22/2012 11:01 PM
To: Ben Allen <ben.allen@uni.edu>, Gloria Gibson <gloria.gibson@uni.edu>
CC: Ian Goldsmith <igoldsmith9@gmail.com>

President Allen and Provost Gibson,

I want to thank you for everything you do for our university. You've had to make such incredibly difficult decisions and have had to put up with so much abuse from the campus community. At the meeting you had with faculty today, I could see how painful these decisions have been for you.

Gloria, when you spoke about the Academic Affairs debt and about the funding levels from the government, I was moved to tears. I really wanted to give you a huge hug afterwards.

I have no idea how difficult these past few weeks must have been for you, and I'm sure it's only going to get worse. Just know that you have my support.

For the last few days, today especially, I've been hearing from a lot of students and faculty regarding the cuts. You already know what the faculty have been saying. Students have been primarily concerned about the lab school and museum closing.

But there is a major difference between what the students say to me and what the professors say to me. The majority of students, despite being upset that the lab school would possibly be closing, have asked me to let you both know that they appreciate your efforts. They understand to a certain degree that our budget outlook is grim and that tough decisions need to be made. You both have their respect and I think that, for the most part, they trust you to make the decisions necessary to keep UNI an excellent institution.

I don't expect you've been hearing much praise recently, so I wanted to make sure that you heard it from me at the very least.

Again, thank you so much for your work and service to UNI.

All my best,

Spencer

--
Spencer A. Walrath
Student Body President
Northern Iowa Student Government

Subject: some support
From: James Lubker <james.lubker@uni.edu>
Date: 2/18/2012 9:25 AM
To: Ben Allen <Ben.Allen@uni.edu>
CC: Pat Allen <Pat.Allen@uni.edu>

Ben:

I'm copying this letter to Pat since you guys are so close on everything and I want to be sure you both feel my support, admiration and affection.

I'm writing because I'm sure you're catching a goodly lot of grief right now and although I'm also sure that you're getting some strong support, I want to add my voice to any such support.

Actually, the only "grief" that I've seen is in the letters of students and such from the PLS that are appearing with the article on the Courier web page. And those letters are so emotional and speak so badly for the administrators of the PLS as to not be worth serious consideration. I imagine you're getting a lot worse in the form of direct e-mails, letters and phone calls. If not outright visits. A lot of people are confused, uncertain and frightened and that's a combination of emotions that leads folks to do and say sometimes incredibly stupid things. That's an explanation and not a valid excuse for such thoughtless, emotion-driven behavior.

But thoughtful people.....and there are a lot of them, although I don't know how many of them are writing or phoning you....know that you're doing the right thing(s), the hard things, the things that have to be done to get through what appears to be one of the worst, if not the worst, crisis UNI has ever seen. You know that I have long argued for exactly the sorts of things you are described in the Courier as considering. Maybe even more draconian than you are actually considering. Back when I began the assessment and prioritization effort I got a message from a faculty member who said that it was high time we took the bull by the tail and saw what was in front of us. Cute. And spot on. That's all you're doing and it is the right thing to do. The Lab School should be eliminated or sharply reduced in size. It just does not serve it's original purpose well and has calcified upon the body of the university. Public Safety could probably be well run by the Cedar Falls police....that's an idea that has been expressed before and should have surprised no one. In today's world, Print Services just isn't needed. I hate to see the Museum go and have had a long and difficult lunch with Sue, but the problems there have existed for many years and in this fiscal climate they seem unsolvable. Athletics. Well. Don't get me started. In this new life I have so much time and read so many newspapers and on-line news summaries and it seems like every day there's a new problem or a new diatribe about university athletics. Did you know, for example, that between 1990 (or so) and 2008 (or so) faculty salaries went up by about 32% and football coaches salaries went up by 650%? New York Times story. Academics? We could have closed down 30% of the bachelors, masters, doctoral and certificate programs and negatively impacted only about 3 - 4% of the students. We could, or should, eliminate the Graduate College and move those few good graduate programs into their respective colleges after eliminating probably 80% or more of the programs. And so on and on. You're doing the right thing but you're scaring the hell of out people by forcing them to take a hard look at reality and face the need for (gasp!) CHANGE. So you're going to catch enormous grief. I'm so sorry for that. You deserve to be given high praise for addressing the realities facing UNI.

Here is what I hear. These are, now, not my own thoughts and words. Everyone that has spoken with me has a great lot of admiration for you. You are recognized as a good person in a horrible position. Many wish that you had begun this long ago and are a bit angry that you have waited this long. Some feel that you are crying "wolf".....that they've been hearing this doom and destruction message for so long

and they just don't believe it. Some are concerned about communication and transparency. They wish they were getting more regular messages and more specificity.....these are the folks who are frightened and confused. That's about the extent of the critical views that I've heard. From maybe only eight or ten people from a wide range of areas on campus. Your review, ongoing, will tell you more but I fear that it will be driven by the fear and confusion.

My bottom line: From all I can determine, universities are in terrible favor with just about everyone. Even magazines like Forbes are predicting that we had the Dot-Com Bubble, then we had the Housing Bubble and the next one will be the Higher Education Bubble. I may be in a doomsday mode, but it truly looks like something has to be done to curb costs. Tuition increases and state support just can't do it anymore. Changes have to be made. You're stepping up and facing all of this and the crowd will surely howl in amazed anger that anyone should have the temerity to actually try to face and solve such a huge problem. But thoughtful folks will understand and applaud.....sadly, they will tend to be somewhat less demonstrative.

So, Karin and I will be demonstrative. We love you guys and are so saddened at what you must be undergoing over this. If either or both of you want a haven for a few hours, we promise that we won't bring up the topics of budgets or the university although we'll be glad to act as sounding boards. Grandchildren. The joys and evils of retirement. Or just staring at the cornfield in our back yard. Coffee. Tea. More exotic drinks. Got a student coming out this afternoon at 1:00 to talk about her Honors Thesis that I am advising and we're going to the performance at the GBPAC tomorrow afternoon. Otherwise our schedules are flexible. Just let us know.

All love to you both.....

Jim

Subject: Kathy McCoy
From: Ben Allen <m1600002@uni.edu>
Date: 2/17/2012 4:57 PM
To: Ben Allen <ben.allen@uni.edu>, Jennifer Yarrow <jennifer.yarrow@uni.edu>

Ben — in case - you want to personally respond to Kathy! -- Brenda

------ Original Message -------
Subject:Re: A Message from UNI President Ben Allen
Date:Thu, 16 Feb 2012 19:42:41 -0500
From:Kathy <kmccoy310@aol.com>
To:ben-allen@uni-mail.org

Ben,
I soo completly belive in YOU and your decisions I am one of your greatest advocates.
Kathy

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Android-powered phone

ben-allen@uni-mail.org wrote:

>University of Northern Iowa
>Office of the President
>---------------
>February 16, 2012
>
>The higher education landscape has changed dramatically, both in Iowa and throughout the nation. As leaders in higher education, we have a res
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>Changes have been made during the past few years to prepare us for the future. Unfortunately, those changes were not enough. We continue to r
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>Academic and non-academic programs, support services, and outsourcing opportunities are being reviewed. Malcolm Price Lab School, the UNI Muse
>
>We are working with the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, and consulting with applicable stakeholders, to make changes now to ensure the educati
>
>Thank you for your confidence and support.
>
>Sincerely,
>
>Ben Allen
>
>---------------
>Office of the President
>20 Seerley Hall
>University of Northern Iowa
>Cedar Falls, IA 50614

Subject: Fwd: Closing of the UNI Museum
From: Ben Allen <President@uni.edu>
Date: 10/30/2011 11:09 AM
To: Ben Allen <ben.allen@uni.edu>

-------- Original Message --------
Subject:Closing of the UNI Museum
Date:Thu, 27 Oct 2011 15:15:15 -0500
From:Jenn Van Haaften <jenn.vanhaaften@gmail.com>
To:gloria.gibson@uni.edu
CC:president@uni.edu, info@unialumni.org, amy.mohr@uni.edu, bill.calhoun@uni.edu, noreen.hermansen@uni.edu, debra.umbdenstock@uni.edu, rgreen@dmreg.com, pat.kinney@wcfcourier.com, kristin.guess@wcfcourier.com, newsroom@press-citizen.com

Dr. Gloria Gibson

Executive Vice President and Provost
Seerley 001

University of Northern Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614

Dear Dr. Gibson,

I am writing about the decision to close the UNI Museum physical building for good. While the concern for the collections is noted, I do not see any plans in place to make the museum a physical place to visit ever again. This is short-sighted; considering that the cost of renovations has been quoted at $500,000, which is nothing compared to the fantastic fundraising the University Foundation and University have done on the behalf of facilities like McLeod Center and the Gallagher-Bluedorn Center. To assume that there are no alumni with an interest in funding a renovation or even a re-imagining and rebuilding of the type of place the UNI Museum could be is a disservice to the sensibilities of alumni.

The UNI Museum is accredited by the American Association of Museums. I can assure you this is no small feat. It takes some intense work on the part of the staff and many standards must be adhered to. The closing of its building most likely will cause it to lose its accreditation. To claim that closing the museum and moving the collections is to protect the collections is not long term viability. It is boxing it up and putting it on a shelf. Not providing a physical place will severely limit the accessibility the average person has to the museum collections. Without a physical place, the museum cannot serve its educational mission, which is the most important function of a museum. This is not in conflict with a university's mission, which is to educate. A museum is not a physical place or merely a repository of objects. It is a place where culture, history, objects, and ideas come together to change and influence visitors to think about their lives and their culture around them in a new way or a different light.

I am appalled that as an alumna, I have never heard that the physicality of the museum building was in disrepair. I am frustrated that no one allowed the museum staff to share their needs with alumni who might be interested in giving. The alumni of the history and anthropology departments would have been a good place to start. Years ago I would have given to a campaign had it been created to stave off the state of disrepair it is now in. Because the university has neglected its obligation as the responsible party to keep up the repairs, there should be discussion of a new facility. Why are you not considering forming a committee to work on a capital campaign for a new museum?

I take personal affront to this. As a college student, I volunteered at the Marshall Center One-Room Schoolhouse. My husband was able to use work study and work in the collections at the UNI Museum. My husband and I both have careers in museums. While not glamorous nor as well paid as some of your other alumni, a number of us were history majors who did choose this path and would be glad to support a capital campaign for a new museum facility. UNI has a lab school, why can it not have a museum to give students real life experience in that type of work? In addition, there are alumni who have donated pieces of UNI history to the museum; some of those items are from my own family. Without a physical facility, there is no good place to share UNI's sense of place to its alumni, visitors, and students. Someone with more vision could create a facility that could include the art department, as well as the natural history and history collections, serving more interest groups on campus. More vision could work toward an endowment to continue repairs on a facility that clearly the University has chosen to neglect systematically over the years. More vision could connect the museum to the local community and become a center of community events. Instead budgets are cut and a museum is seen as an unnecessary luxury.

Yet museums are considered to be the one of the most trusted sources of information on

history. In 1998, David Thelen (a professor emeritus from Indiana University, where I understand you received your PhD) and Roy Rosenzweig published a book, *The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life.* During the research for this book, the authors discovered that museums were a more trusted source of history information than personal accounts from a relative, accounts from someone who has been there, college professors or high school history teachers. Books and movies were at the bottom of the list. By this logic, the UNI Museum would be a more trusted source than the history professors or the teachers that will be graduated from UNI. Wouldn't it make more sense to encourage the use of the UNI Museum in educating the educators of tomorrow? Teach them how to show that history is more than what is on a printed page. Museums have professionals that know how to engage visitors in several ways. These professionals can teach a lot to the students in education and history classes. I would have thought that someone who had been a dean in Humanities and Social Sciences would want students in those departments to have as many employment doors opened to them as imaginable. A museum on campus is one place where many of those students can learn about cultures, civilizations and the history of the world in a different setting with different tools for looking at our human lives and can open their eyes to a museum career.

I am a museum professional. I know that government, education, and museum institutions are strapped for cash. But a university should understand that all its programs, not just athletics and performance venues, will need support of alumni and donors at any given point and that it can get that support for the dollars needed to fulfill its obligations to care for collections and to educate with them. Instead of forming a committee to decide how to close down a museum and disperse its collections, I suggest this committee be formed to discuss fund raising, developing a new museum complex, a good location for it and a new strategic plan for the next ten years to reach out to students, staff, alumni, and community members. If you need someone to work on the committee, I would be available, but only if the committee will be formed to look forward to a strategic plan that involves a new era for the museum, one where it is nationally accredited, cared for, and participating as a viable entity in the university and municipal communities. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Van Haaften '93

Cc: University of Northern Iowa President Benjamin Allen

UNI Alumni Association Board

UNI Alumni Association President Amy Mohr

UNI Foundation President Bill Calhoun

UNI Foundation Vice President Noreen Hermanson

UNI Foundation Director of Development Debra Umbdenstock

Subject: In support
From: Constance Van Dyke <connie.vandyke@uni.edu>
Date: 3/5/2012 1:43 PM
To: Benjamin J Allen <ben.allen@uni.edu>

I am not a student of Price Lab nor a parent of a student of Price Lab. I am not a Professor/faculty here at UNI. I do not hold a degree from any University but I have experienced life and have worked for 45 years and know the value of a dollar and that you have to work and most people do not get a free ride. I am just a 15-year employee here at UNI and while I have compassion for the students of Price Lab, I respect and support your decision on the museum and Price Lab. These are difficult times and it calls for difficult decions that are for the betterment of the body as a whole.

I seem to recall a committee of faculty - Professors formed to study colleges of study and determine how many students were graduating from these programs and if these were economically feasible to continue. I have been watching and listening to see if this Committee came to any decision. I have not heard of anything being accomplished by this Committee. It is difficult to decide the fate of your colleagues, but unless it personally touches us, most people don't get it that these are tough times and something has to give.

I feel your decision was not made lightly and I'm sure you had alot of information with which to make a knowledgable decision as to what was the best for the University as a whole. I don't have any prophetic words of wisdom to give -- I'm sure you have already received those from smarter educated individuals than myself. I also agree that we need to make these decisions for ourselves, no matter how painful they are while we have the opportunity to make the decisions for ourselves rather than someone else making it for us.

I do have some questions that might be reviewed:
1. Number of supervisors to the number of hands-on working staff
2. Tenured faculty -
3. Programs which only graduate a few students

With all of the faculty votes recently "no-confidence" I wanted you to know that I do have confidence in your leadership. Change is very difficult because it sometimes means going down an unknown path and I respect that you and your team have the courage to seek a new and hopefully successful path to keep UNI as a leader in education.

Connie Van Dyke
connie.vandyke@uni.edu

Facilities Planning
University of Northern Iowa
http://www.vpaf.uni.edu/fs

The University of Northern Iowa provides transformative learning experiences that inspire students to embrace challenge, engage in critical inquiry and creative thought, and contribute to society.

Subject: Fwd: Re: A Message from UNI President Ben Allen
From: Ben Allen <m1600002@uni.edu>
Date: 3/5/2012 1:01 PM
To: Ben Allen <ben.allen@uni.edu>, pat.allen@uni.edu

-------- Original Message --------
Subject:Re: A Message from UNI President Ben Allen
Date:Mon, 5 Mar 2012 08:13:29 -0600
From:Patty Cutts <pacutts@cfu.net>
To:ben-allen@uni-mail.org

Ben
We appreciate and support what you are doing at UNI and wish you the best on the challenging road ahead!
Ken and Patty Cutts

On Thu, Feb 16, 2012 at 5:24 PM, <ben-allen@uni-mail.org> wrote:

Office of the President - University of Northern Iowa

February 16, 2012

The higher education landscape has changed dramatically, both in Iowa and throughout the nation. As leaders in higher education, we have a responsibility to our students, their parents and taxpayers of Iowa to maintain our excellent academic reputation, enhance access and affordability, and prepare for the future. In times like these, we must define our future before circumstances dictate it for us.

Changes have been made during the past few years to prepare us for the future. Unfortunately, those changes were not enough. We continue to need to make strategic budget decisions by reallocating and aligning resources to support our core mission and values.

Academic and non-academic programs, support services, and outsourcing opportunities are being reviewed. Malcolm Price Lab School, the UNI Museum, Panther Athletics and UNI Print Services are included in this review. We will announce academic program mergers and closures. The academic programs are those with low enrollment and few graduates. Students enrolled in those programs will be allowed to finish their programs.

We are working with the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, and consulting with applicable stakeholders, to make changes now to ensure the educational experience we want for every student exists in the future. Making difficult decisions today will help ensure that we continue our tradition of excellence. We believe these decisions will result in an institution that retains and builds on its historic strengths, while aligning us for future success in a challenging and competitive education environment.

Thank you for your confidence and support.

Sincerely,

Ben Allen

Office of the President
20 Seerley Hall
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA 50614

--
Patty

Subject: Re: Fwd: Fwd: AAUW book club Notice re Museum
From: Brenda Buzynski <brenda.buzynski@uni.edu>
Date: 3/5/2012 9:54 AM
To: Patricia Geadelmann <patricia.geadelmann@uni.edu>, cabinetonly@uni.edu

I will add to the list of 10 items for the web site - clarification on the Museum --

-- Brenda

Patricia Geadelmann said the following on 3/5/2012 9:18 AM:

> Note below -- We should include on the web-site and to the campus plans/timelines for vacating the Museum building and what will happen to the building.
> Pat
>
> -------- Original Message --------
> **Subject:**Fwd: AAUW book club Notice
> **Date:**Sun, 4 Mar 2012 22:12:09 -0600
> **From:**Maureen White <mwhite@cfu.net>
>
> From Dr. Judy Beckman, co-chair Cedar Valley Discover and Discuss Diversity
>
> > **From:** Doris Mitchell <doris.mitchell@uni.edu>
> > **Subject: AAUW book club**
> > **Date:** March 1, 2012 3:52:41 PM CST
> > **To:** Judy Beckman <drjudy.beckman@cfu.net>
> >
> > FROM: Doris Mitchell UNI Museum
> >
> > To: CV3D members of Cedar Falls AAUW
> >
> > It's rather hard to write this, but as you might have heard by now, the Museum's doors will close to the public June 30. Some staff will remain after June 30 but we have not been given a specific plan about disbursing the collection or vacating the building.
> >
> > Our current exhibit will be dismantled beginning on June 10, so we will not be able to have your book club meet here on Tuesday, June 11. A good part of the Museum will not be accessible because of packing the exhibit and the classroom will be in use as a staging area for sorting and organizing education

material.

So, unfortunately, this all means that we will not be able to schedule AAUW book club beyond your May 14 program.

On a personal note, it's been nice to have AAUW meet here the past few years and I'll miss seeing you and others that I know in the group.

Doris

Doris Mitchell
UNI Museums
3219 Hudson Road
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0199

319-273-2188
For deaf or hard-of-hearing use Relay 711
319-273-6924 FAX
doris.mitchell@uni.edu
www.uni.edu/museum

--

Brenda Buzynski Ph.D.
UNI - Office of the President
20 Seerley Hall, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0705
PH: 319-273-2566 FAX: 319-273-6494
Brenda.Buzynski@uni.edu

The University of Northern Iowa provides transformative learning experiences that inspire students to embrace challenge, engage in critical inquiry and creative thought, and contribute to society.

Subject: Fwd: Re: A Message from UNI President Ben Allen
From: Ben Allen <m1600002@uni.edu>
Date: 3/3/2012 9:16 PM
To: Ben Allen <ben.allen@uni.edu>, pat.allen@uni.edu

-------- Original Message --------
Subject:Re: A Message from UNI President Ben Allen
Date:Thu, 1 Mar 2012 15:31:54 -0600
From:Betty <mhurley@cfu.net>
To:<ben-allen@uni-mail.org>

March 1st, 2012
President Allen:
Betty and I want you to know that you have our complete support. It's times like this that I wish I were a "real" character in a Clint Eastwood movie where I could go in and.....well I'll leave that up to other's imagination. My father taugh the nine of us children that above all else, "be true unto theyself". I believe you are and we respect the very difficult job you have to do.
If there is ever anything we can do to help you or Pat, please let us know.
You remain in our thoughts and prayers.
Mike & Betty Hurley

> ----- Original Message -----
> **From:** ben-allen@uni-mail.org
> **To:** mhurley@cfu.net
> **Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 5:24 PM
> **Subject:** A Message from UNI President Ben Allen
>
> Office of the President - University of Northern Iowa
>
> February 16, 2012
>
> The higher education landscape has changed dramatically, both in Iowa and throughout the nation. As leaders in higher education, we have a responsibility to our students, their parents and taxpayers of Iowa to maintain our excellent academic reputation, enhance access and affordability, and prepare for the future. In times like these, we must define our future before circumstances dictate it for us.
>
> Changes have been made during the past few years to prepare us for the future. Unfortunately, those changes were not enough. We continue to need to make strategic budget decisions by reallocating and aligning resources to support our core mission and values.

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We are working with the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, and consulting with applicable stakeholders, to make changes now to ensure the educational experience we want for every student exists in the future. Making difficult decisions today will help ensure that we continue our tradition of excellence. We believe these decisions will result in an institution that retains and builds on its historic strengths, while aligning us for future success in a challenging and competitive education environment.

Thank you for your confidence and support.

Sincerely,

Ben Allen

Office of the President
20 Seerley Hall
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA 50614

Subject: Steve Corbin: Kudos for recent decisions--proud of you two!!!
From: Steve Corbin <steve.corbin@uni.edu>
Date: 2/27/2012 7:22 PM
To: Benjamin Allen <ben.allen@uni.edu>, Gloria Gibson <gloria.gibson@uni.edu>

Gloria & Ben:

Bottom Line: I ***H-i-G-h-L-y*** commend both of you for making your tough decisions after your due diligence and several years of data & investigation related to Price Lab School closing, museum closing, print services outsourced, reduction of athletic department support, possible outsourcing of Public Safety, and eliminating bachelor & master degree programs that graduate so few students that if each program were applying for a loan, the ROI would look so poorly, their loan application would be denied!

ONLY read the following "if" you've got time . . . if not, I understand . . .
1) My undergraduate degree from UNI (1970, A.D.!) was in Marketing Education (all MKTG majors were teaching majors until my sr. year). As such, I participated in Price Lab School observation & participation activities. In my sophomore year I knew that Price Lab was not that valuable. Why? There were sooooo many of us participating in observation activities that there were days there were more of us teachers-in-training than students in the classroom. After a while our teacher, Mr. Nelson, told us that we were getting in the way and that if we wanted to bring our books and study or just stay home that that would be fine with him. As immature 18-19-20-21 year olds, we stayed in our dorm or at least went to the lounge to play some card game.
2) When Linda Corbin and I took our oldest son, Dan, to pre-school activities at Price Lab School, we were told by the teacher that Dan couldn't count, didn't know his colors, and didn't know the alphabet. We knew just the opposite. After quizzing the teacher if she got Dan mixed up with someone else, she said "no." In visiting with Dan about the situation, he then brought home several learning activities where he did indeed know his colors, count and write out all letters of the alphabet--we knew it was Dan's work! When we showed the teacher his work, she said, "well, someone else must have done this for Dan." When we brought Dan to a meeting with her, I've only once seen more stammering and stuttering, with never an apology coming forward. We withdrew Dan from Price Lab School and his next Pre-School teacher, Mrs. Miller, a UNI graduate, living near Denver, Iowa, said that that wasn't the first experience of such a nature she had encountered with Price Lab teachers.
3) In 1975 I came to UNI on soft-money (federal Perkins Vocational-Technical Education money) as a pre- and in-service Marketing Teacher Educator. We prepared H.S. & Comm. Col. Marketing Vocational-Technical Educators here at UNI as well as conducted in-service extension-like services throughout Iowa for the ~75 H.S. Marketing Education & ~25 Community College Marketing Education teachers. My peer, Dr. Roger Ditzenberger (who was one of my undergraduate profs), and I refused to have any of our freshmen, sophomore, juniors, seniors or graduate students EVER step one foot into the Price Lab School as Ditz' (nickname) saw how Price Lab was not training us as was espoused. Ditz' and I were able to

get our Marketing Teacher-Coordinators from Cedar Falls H.S., Waterloo East H.S., Waterloo West H.S., Hawkeye Community College, Iowa Falls H.S., Decorah H.S., Charles City H.S., Oelwein H.S., Kirkwood C.C., DMACC, NIACC, Marshalltown H.S., and the list goes on and on to "take care" of our students' Phase I, II & III learning activities, usually on the H.S./C.C. teacher-coordinators own time and not one dime! Our students-in-training knew about Price Lab and were *very* appreciative that we were able to get them waived from a Price Lab disaster and give them solid preparatory training.

4) As a 11 year elected Denver Community School District Board of Education member, I've had several meetings with board members & superintendents from surrounding schools and all of us were perplexed as to whether the Price Lab School was actually a "laboratory" or just like them, but with privileges. I concur with Glenn Hansen's (Dean Emeritus, UNI Continuing Education) take, stated 6-8-10 years ago, on Price Lab: we should tell all Price Lab parents that we will experiment in every class with some form of research and your child may come out OK or s/he could have a less-than-desirable experience and YOU decide if you want your child to be in this research-based experiment . . . as he felt, via both of his kids graduating from Price Lab, that it was not an experimental or laboratory school, rather just another school surviving year by year.

5) I can't recall one good leader of Price Lab School and I've been here 37 years! President Emeritus Robert Koob came "this" close to closing down the Price Lab School one decade ago and got spooked at the last moment. He should have followed through with the data and knowledge he had as the statistics were definitely on his side. We've known for decades now that the school has expired its original function, mostly due to poor leadership.

You two are to be commended on your excellent leadership! Gloria: call me as you, Doris and I know where there's some fine with and superb hors d' oeuvres with our name on it (cell 319-290-9779). Ben: in your first couple of years here, you use to purposely have a one-on-one meeting with me where I let you know what-the-buzz-was-on-campus . . . The Library is still open for such a confab.

Have a great day and a better tomorrow. - Steve Corbin @ Feb. 27, 2012

#

Subject: UNI Budget Cuts
From: Dee Seeman <ddseeman@gmail.com>
Date: 2/25/2012 8:05 PM
To: ben.allen@uni.edu, calangfarm@gmail.com, regentrastetter@gmail.com, regentcarroll@gmail.com, bobd@meardonlaw.com, ruth.harkin@cox.net, gretaajohnson@gmail.com, miles.david.w@gmail.com, KsMulholland5@linnmar.k12.ia.us, jackevans@hallperrine.org
CC: jason.glass@iowa.gov, sdoyle@iastate.edu, james.oconnor@uni.edu

Dear President Allen and Honorable Members of the Board of Regents,

Malcolm Price Laboratory School is a valuable resource for instructing pre-service teachers, a primary focus of the University of Northern Iowa. At a time when Iowa is focused on improving our already high-quality education, we cannot afford to lose this facility for training high-quality teachers. Hundreds of students participate in thousands of hours of valuable field experiences each year at MPLS, helping UNI educate the best teachers. Our daughter's field experiences at MPLS were invaluable to her. Their dedication to quality education influenced her to pursue her master's degree at UNI. The teachers at MPLS do not just serve as Master Teachers for their PK-12 students. They are trained to mentor UNI's pre-service teachers, providing experiences which cannot be duplicated by field experiences outside the MPLS setting. The research and development role of MPLS is also important and unique to UNI. In addition, the MPLS staff and facilities are valuable resources for community outreach events such as last Thursday's African American Read-In.

Business experts would tell us that it is not wise to take one of the greatest assets of your business and eliminate it, but that is what is being proposed. Closing this facility will not just impact the MPLS PK-12 students, but will impact the quality of UNI's pre-service teacher education. This in turn will impact the quality of education for thousands of PK-12 students throughout Iowa, and the quality of Iowa's education system, for years to come.

If UNI loses MPLS, UNI will lose its position as Iowa's best university for educating teachers. A few years ago ISU was required to reduce their education department in subject areas which duplicated programs offered at UNI, so students may now not be able to find the programs they are seeking at other state universities. Many students seeking an education degree will choose private colleges or go out of state for their education.

Closing MPLS would be contrary to UNI's "Mission Statement" (<http://www.uni.edu/president/sites/default/files/10-11UNIFactBook.pdf>) and the Board of Regents' published "Priorities" and "Mission" statements (< http://www.regents.iowa.gov/FAQ/faq.html#Priorities>).

Please carefully consider this decision and keep MPLS open for the best future of Iowa, Iowa's education system, and Iowa's teachers and children.

On a related note, the UNI Museum is a valuable resource for our area public school students, for field trips, scout groups, and individual families. If these resources must be relocated, please move them to a central location that is accessible for these uses.

As a teacher, as parents of a UNI education student, and as Iowans, we thank you for your careful consideration of these issues.

Respectfully,
Delores and James Seeman

Subject: DMR article reallocations
From: Stacey Christensen <stacey.christensen@uni.edu>
Date: 2/23/2012 4:24 PM
To: Ben Allen <ben.allen@uni.edu>, James O'Connor <james.oconnor@uni.edu>
CC: Stacey Christensen <stacey.christensen@uni.edu>

Jens with the DMR, captured some nice quotes from legislators showing support for President Allen's budget decisions.
http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2012/02/23/uni-to-save-1-1-million-by-cutting-museum-athletics-and-printing-services/

Stacey Christensen
University of Northern Iowa
Public Relations Manager
stacey.christensen@uni.edu
319-273-6728
www.uni.edu/newsroom

Subject: Fwd: Issues Update: UNI announces reallocations for future growth
From: Troy Dannen <troy.dannen@uni.edu>
Date: 2/23/2012 12:39 PM
To: intercollegiate-athletics-l@uni.edu

FYI.....

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **James O'Connor** <james.oconnor@uni.edu>
Date: Thu, Feb 23, 2012 at 12:32 PM
Subject: Issues Update: UNI announces reallocations for future growth
To: issues-update@uni.edu, dddh@uni.edu
Cc: JAMES O'Connor <james.oconnor@uni.edu>

The Office of University Relations provides Issues Updates to key campus administrators. Please share the information as you see fit. If you have questions, please call 273-2761.

The following information will be released to the media at 1 p.m. today, please do not forward until 1 p.m.

2/23/12

UNI officials announce actions to reallocate resources for future growth

Cedar Falls, Iowa -- University of Northern Iowa President Ben Allen announced today strategic decisions to reallocate and realign resources to support academic priorities and to ensure future growth.

"We remain committed to our vision of becoming one of the nation's premier public universities, and our mission of providing the best possible academic experience for our students," Allen said. "The current economic challenges and changes taking place in higher education provide an opportunity for strategic repositioning of the University of Northern Iowa for the next decade. We want to define our own destiny rather than allow circumstances to do it for us."

Pending approval by the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, UNI administrators will make the following program and services changes:

- Recommend the closure of Malcolm Price Laboratory School

UNI will continue to lead the nation in teacher education by incorporating the latest research and development models in partnership with education experts, leading universities and school districts. Malcolm Price Laboratory School has been an integral part of the strong

heritage of achievement in teacher education at UNI, but it is not feasible for UNI to continue to subsidize the school or to invest millions of dollars to improve the aging school building. The financial constraints, combined with current best-practices and research that support realistic and diverse field experiences for education students, make it necessary to recommend the closing of the school by June 30, 2012. Funds will be reallocated to Iowa's Statewide Research and Development initiative and the UNI teacher education program.

· Reduce general fund support for Intercollegiate Athletics

UNI is continuing its progress toward reducing general fund support for the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Through a combination of expense reduction and revenue generation, general fund support provided to Athletics will be reduced by an additional $500,000 over the next three years. Athletic Director Troy Dannen will provide more detail as soon as final decisions are made. Elimination of sports programs is not anticipated.

· Integrate selected UNI Museum collections within campus and community for greater student access

Successfully integrating selected collections into library and department buildings is a primary goal to provide enhanced student access and stronger visitor traffic. The current museum building is in need of major repairs and renovation. The museum building will be closed to the public June 30, 2012 and the collections will be moved to various campus and community locations to provide research, teaching and outreach opportunities. The university will retain ownership of the collections. The closure will save $200,000 annually as well as capital funds that would be required to renovate or build. Office and exhibit spaces will be provided.

· Print services partnership for access to new technology and services

A partnership with a variety of local printing and copying companies will provide access to the latest technology and lower overall printing expenses. UNI Print Services will close no later than June 30, 2012. This change will allow UNI to avoid more than $400,000 in equipment replacement costs, as well as department salaries and benefits.

These recommended program changes and cost savings will allow UNI leadership to invest in programs (academic and non-academic) where there is the greatest demand and need.

· Academic program changes -- announcement next week

A separate announcement about academic program mergers and closures will be made next week. The programs likely affected are those with low graduation rates.

During the past three years, President Allen has established multiple study groups at UNI to review all academic and non-academic programs, as well as services and outsourcing opportunities. Many changes have already been made with program and service enhancements, closures, outsourcing and reduced staffing levels.

The strategic budget decisions announced today are in addition to significant changes already

made by the university. Since 2000, UNI's annual general fund appropriation has been cut seven times and is now below 1996-97 funding levels. State funding to UNI has decreased a total of $23.6 million, or 24 percent, in the last four years. The university began fiscal 2012 with a $5 million budget shortfall. The fiscal 2012 appropriation is $4.3 million below the fiscal 2011 level. UNI will begin fiscal 2013 with an obligation of $4.1 million in negotiated salary and benefits increases.
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GO PANTHERS!

Troy Dannen
Director of Athletics
University of Northern Iowa

319-273-2470